Office of Community Development

Disaster Recovery Unit

State of Louisiana

Division of Administration

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STATE SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ENHANCED PLAN FOR ISLE DE JEAN CHARLES RESETTLEMENT

The Louisiana Office of Community Development is accepting public comments on an Action Plan Amendment that adds new activities to its program to resettle the residents of Isle de Jean Charles, an island in Terrebonne Parish that is rapidly disappearing into the Gulf of Mexico.

The IDJC resettlement site is located about 40 miles north of the island on the mainland in the Schriever area of Terrebonne Parish. Each of the proposed activities anticipates the additional needs that may arise due to development, construction and program implementation.

"As we move forward in creating this new community, we will naturally adjust our plans to remain responsive to and adapt to the emerging needs of the island residents while continuing to progress toward the program's goals," Pat Forbes, OCD executive director, said. "APA 5 is a substantial demonstration of this process of flexible adaptation."

Action Plan Amendment 5 will make infrastructure improvements and develop renewal energy sources on the new site; develop a commercial corridor and provide microenterprise assistance to businesses that locate on or near the site; create partnerships with nonprofits for maintaining and governing the new community; provide homeownership assistance to resettlement participants; and dispose of real property on the island.

The formal public comment period for Action Plan Amendment 5 begins today, April 8, 2019, and continues until 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, 2019. Residents, community leaders and elected officials can view the plan by clicking here and selecting the respective APA link.